

PATENT
Docket No. 56286US003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): PARTHASARATHY et al.)	Group Art Unit:	1651
)		
Serial No.: 09/841,264)	Examiner:	David Naff
Confirmation No.: 5359)		
)		
Filed: 24 April 2001)		
)		
For: BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE PROCESSING METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS THAT INCLUDE SURFACTANTS			

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed 15 October 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, this paragraph is also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.

The methods described herein can be used in a variety of different processes requiring thermal cycling of samples contained in the process chambers of the devices. Examples of some such processes involve chemical reactions of samples, e.g., nucleic acid amplification. For example, samples may be mixed with a polynucleotide, a polymerase (such as *Taq* polymerase), triphosphates (e.g., dNTPs), a first primer hybridizable with the sample polynucleotide, and a second primer hybridizable with a sequence complementary to the polynucleotide. Some or all of the required reagents may be present in the device as manufactured, they may be loaded into